

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the present application, as published in Publication No. US 2004/0133232 A1, please delete paragraph **[0188]** in its entirety and insert the following new paragraph:

[0188] Actuation of the clot removal feature of the embolectomy catheter 600 can be seen most clearly by comparison between FIGS. 19A and 19B. Specifically, the clot removal wires 724' are shown in their stretched and radially contracted configurations in FIG. 19A, and in their relaxed and radially expanded configuration in FIG. 19B, forming an expanded wire nest 750. This transformation is caused by proximal displacement of the outer tube, as indicated by the arrow 752. The clot removal wires 724 normally assume the expanded configuration seen in FIG. 19B if they remain unconstrained, but are held in the stretched configuration 724' by the presence of the surrounding distal sheath 676. Sliding the distal sheath 676 in a proximal direction 752 releases the wires 724, which tend to radially expand, pulling their free ends ~~730~~ 732 and 736 in a distal direction. Because the pairs of wires 724 are wrapped around the distal segment 690 on both sides of the sliding marker band 738, the sliding marker band also is pulled distally. The relative spacing between the fixed marker band 722 and sliding marker band 738 provides an indication to the operator about the configuration of the clot removal wires 724.